

Remarks

Claims 1-20 were pending.

Dependent claims 21-31 have been added

Claims 1, 16 and 20 are independent claims; claims 2-15 depend from claim 1, claims 17-19 depend from claim 16, and claims 21-31 depend from claim 20.

In the Office action of June 9, 2004, the Examiner has rejected the claims as follows:

- Claims 1-3 and 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) over Hel-Or (Copyright Labeling of Printed Images); and
- Claims 16, 17, and 20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Hel-Or in view of Cass (U.S. 6,141,441).

The rejection of each of the pending claims relies to some extent on the disclosure of Hel-Or. As established by the attached Declaration Under 37 CFR § 1.131, however, Applicants had reduced to practice the subject matter recited in claims 1-31 in this country prior to Hel-Or's publication date (i.e., September 10-13, 2000). Accordingly, Hel-Or is not prior art and each of the Examiner's rejections should be withdrawn.

For the reasons explained above, all of the pending claims are now in condition for allowance and should be allowed.

Charge any excess fees or apply any credits to Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,

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Edouard Garcia
Reg. No. 38,461
Telephone No.: (650) 631-6591

Please direct all correspondence to:

Hewlett-Packard Company
Intellectual Property Administration
Legal Department, M/S 35
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80528-9599